

21. A method according to claim 20, wherein the mammal is a human.

22. A method according to claim 20, wherein the secondary metastatic tumor occurs in the brain.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein the secondary tumor is a metastasised melanoma.

24. A method according to claim 20, wherein the mutant virus is a mutant strain 17 virus.

25. A method according to claim 20, wherein the mutant virus is a herpes simplex virus type 1 which has been modified within the Bam HI s restriction fragment of the R_L terminal repeat.

26. A method according to claim 25, wherein the modification is a deletion of from 0.1 to 3kb.

27. A method according to claim 26, wherein the deletion is from 0.7 to 2.5 kb.

28. A method according to claim 27, wherein the deletion is a 759 bp deletion in the γ 34.5 gene.

29. A method according to claim 20, wherein the mutant virus is strain 1716.

30. A method of treating a cancer in a mammal, which method comprises the step of administering to the said mammal an effective amount of a mutant herpes simplex virus type 1 wherein the mutant virus is a mutant strain 17 virus which has a non-functional γ 34.5 gene in the long repeat region (R_L).

31. A method according to claim 30, wherein the mammal is a human.

32. A method according to claim 30, wherein the cancer is a brain tumor.

33. A method according to claim 32, wherein the tumor is a primary tumor originating within the brain or nervous system.

34. A method according to claim 30, wherein the cancer is a metastatic tumor.

35. A method according to claim 34, wherein the cancer is a metastasised melanoma.

36. A method according to claim 30, wherein the mutant strain 17 virus has been modified within the Bam H1 s restriction fragment of the R_L terminal repeat.

37. A method according to claim 36, wherein the modification is a deletion of from 0.1 to 3kb.

38. A method according to claim 37, wherein the deletion is from 0.7 to 2.5 kb.

39. A method according to claim 38, wherein the deletion is a 759 bp deletion in the γ 34.5 gene.

40. A method according to claim 30, wherein the mutant virus is strain 1716.

41. A method according to claim 30, wherein the mutant virus is administered directly into the cancer.